

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 7048**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1435

**NOTE PREPARED:** Dec 28, 2006

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Department of Child Services Caseworkers.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Mays

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**BILL STATUS:** As Introduced

**FUNDS AFFECTED:** X GENERAL  
DEDICATED  
FEDERAL

**IMPACT:** State

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill allows a Department of Child Services caseworker to carry mace, pepper spray, a stun gun, or another nonlethal device specified by the Department while working on a Department investigation. The bill allows the Department to adopt rules: (1) concerning training requirements and other requirements that a caseworker must meet to carry a nonlethal device; and (2) specifying other nonlethal devices that a Department caseworker may carry.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2007.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** This bill allows a Department of Child Services (DCS) caseworker to carry a nonlethal device while working on a DCS investigation.

The bill allows the DCS to adopt rules regarding training requirements and other requirements that a DCS caseworker must meet to carry a nonlethal device, and specifying other nonlethal devices not listed under the bill that a DCS caseworker may carry. Adoption of rules should be able to be accomplished within the existing level of budget and resources for the DCS.

*Background Information:* The DCS reports that it currently has an informal policy which disallows caseworkers from carrying nonlethal devices while working on a department investigation. The DCS does have rules which restrict the carrying of lethal devices.

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** Department of Child Services.

**Local Agencies Affected:**

**Information Sources:** Stephanie Beasley, Department of Child Services, 234-3999.

**Fiscal Analyst:** Sarah Brooks, 317-232-9559.